



ITW

**PATENT
NON-FINAL**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/659,399 Confirmation No. 3761
Applicant : Hiromitsu TAKAHASHI et al.
Filed : September 11, 2003
TC/A.U. : 2872
Examiner : Joshua L. Pritchett
Dkt. No. : IPE-023
Cust. No. : 20374

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
TO THE SECOND OFFICE ACTION DATED AUGUST 19, 2004**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

November 17, 2004

Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action dated August 19, 2004.

Reconsideration of the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of claims 2, 4, 6, 8, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20 and 24 is respectfully requested for the reasons explained below.